

**From:** [Graham, Amy](#)  
**To:** [Bowman, Liz](#); [Gray, David](#)  
**Cc:** [Abboud, Michael](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Latest Harvey Update for Press  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 5, 2017 4:39:07 PM

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I'm going to go ahead and send what we have now to the folks who have asked for today's update.

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**From:** Bowman, Liz  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 5, 2017 5:33 PM  
**To:** Graham, Amy <[graham.amy@epa.gov](mailto:graham.amy@epa.gov)>; Gray, David <[gray.david@epa.gov](mailto:gray.david@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Abboud, Michael <[abboud.michael@epa.gov](mailto:abboud.michael@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Latest Harvey Update for Press

Great, thank you for updating David. So this is the version as of 5 p.m. today, right? I should be getting water info from TCEQ soon – we should loop that in and then do a release first thing tomorrow morning.

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**From:** Graham, Amy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 5, 2017 5:18 PM  
**To:** Gray, David <[gray.david@epa.gov](mailto:gray.david@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Abboud, Michael <[abboud.michael@epa.gov](mailto:abboud.michael@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Latest Harvey Update for Press

So helpful. Liz, if you approve I will go ahead and send to all of the press who is asking.

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**From:** Gray, David  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 5, 2017 5:16 PM  
**To:** Graham, Amy <[graham.amy@epa.gov](mailto:graham.amy@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Bowman, Liz <[Bowman.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Bowman.Liz@epa.gov)>; Abboud, Michael <[abboud.michael@epa.gov](mailto:abboud.michael@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Latest Harvey Update for Press

**It isn't the biggest update but I hope it will be helpful.**

### **Latest Harvey Response Update**

Working together, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) continue to coordinate with local, state and federal officials to address the human health and environmental impacts of Hurricane Harvey and its aftermath, especially the water systems in the affected areas. EPA has about 157 personnel and TCEQ has about 500 people supporting the response efforts for Hurricane Harvey and have established a Unified Command with other state and federal partners, and are in the field conducting work. TCEQ response information is available at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/hurricanes>.

### **Arkema Facility Update**

EPA has completed its response support to the Crosby Volunteer Fire Department and the Harris County Fire Marshal's Office for the catastrophic event at Arkema.

### **Superfund Hazardous Waste Sites**

EPA completed site assessments at 13 Superfund sites that have been flooded and/or experience possible damage to to the storm. Of these sites, two (San Jacinto and U.S. Oil Recovery) require additional assessment efforts. Assessments of these sites will take several days to complete. The San Jacinto Waste Pits site has a temporary armored cap designed to prevent migration of hazardous material; the cap will be inspected and repaired if necessary. Based on forecasted river conditions, this inspection started yesterday and will continue until completed. EPA has dive teams to survey the cap underwater when conditions allow. EPA is making plans for longer-term assessments at 41 Superfund sites in the impacted areas as the projects return to their normal remedial cleanups.

### **Air Monitoring**

After completing its mission for the Arkema fire, the EPA surveillance aircraft is conducting aerial reconnaissance of industrial facilities along the Houston Ship Channel. EPA continues to conduct ambient air monitoring in Houston, and is focusing on an area of potential concern associated with reported air emissions from a Valero facility in Houston. EPA has been on-scene conducting real-time air monitoring near the facility. None of the readings collected by EPA have been above first responder screening levels for volatile organic compounds in the air. EPA's Trace Atmospheric Gas Analyzer (TAGA) air monitoring bus is conducting air monitoring in southeast Houston around the Valero Refinery today, and will continue to conduct air monitoring around other refineries as they start back up. The TAGA is a self-contained mobile laboratory capable of real-time sampling and of outdoor air or emissions. The instrumentation refers both to the analytical instrument and the mobile laboratory built around it. EPA continues to investigate complaints in the area.